

## **Agenda**

### **A Public Forum on Efforts to Update Federal and State Packaging and Labeling Laws and Regulations to Give Manufacturers the Option to Voluntarily Label Packages with Only Metric Units**

**Date:** Thursday, November 7, 2002

**Times:** 9:00 A.M. to 4:30 P.M. Breaks will be taken during the morning and afternoon sessions. A lunch break will be taken from 11:30 to 1 P.M.

**Location:** U.S. Department of Commerce Auditorium, Herbert C. Hoover Building, 14th & Constitution Ave, NW, Washington, DC 20230

#### **Presentations**

**9:00 A.M.** - Welcome and Opening Comments - Dr. Richard Kayser, Director of NIST's Technology Services.

Ken Butcher, NIST Laws and Metric Group - "Proposal to Amend the Fair Packaging and Labeling Act to Allow Metric Only Labeling."

Louis E. Straub, Chief, Weights and Measures Section, State of Maryland - "The National Conference on Weights and Measures: Metric in the Marketplace"

Tom Coleman, NIST Laws and Metric Group, - "Value Comparisons"

#### **Speakers**

Christopher Guay, Senior Manager, North American Legislative and Regulatory Affairs, Proctor and Gamble.

Deborah M. Fanning, CAE, Executive Vice President, Art and Creative Materials Institute, Inc.

Lorelle Young, President, U.S. Metric Association, "It's a Metric World --- even in the U.S."

#### **Lunch**

#### **1:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M. Public Comments Session**

Consumers, manufacturers, packagers, exporters and importers, retailers, federal and state agencies, and other interested parties to:

- express their views on removing restrictions on voluntary metric-only labeling.
- identify and address concerns (e.g., regarding the ability of consumers to make value comparisons) which can be dealt with through cooperative efforts.
- identify areas of work needed to ensure the effective voluntary transition to the use of metric units in commercial transactions.

#### **4:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.**

Ken Butcher - Invitation to Participate in a "Working Group on Package Labeling" - The group will work to eliminate barriers to metric only labeling, harmonize state and federal net quantity of content labeling requirements, develop labeling guides to assist packagers, develop solutions to package labeling issues and encourage consumers to make value comparisons.

Closing Comments